

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended to incorporate allowable subject matter, and claim 3 is canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter. Moreover, claim 4 is amended for clarity only and claim 2 is amended to better distinguish over the prior art. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following Remarks is respectfully requested.

It is gratefully appreciated that the Office Action indicates that claim 3 contains allowable subject matter.

The Office Action rejects claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claim 4 is amended to obviate the rejection. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cherne (U.S. Statutory Invention Registration H1435) in view of Hisamoto (U.S. Patent No. 5,115,289); and claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cherne in view of Hisamoto and Yamazaki (U.S. Patent No. 5,959,313).

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Thus, claims 1 and 5-7 are in a condition for allowance.

Furthermore, the Examiner agreed during the personal interview that the applied references, either alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a thin film transistor, including at least extensions extending from both ends of a gate electrode outside of and laterally separated from the channel region and along a channel longitudinal direction, as recited in independent claim 2. Claim 4 is amended to depend from claim 2. Thus, claims 2 and 4 are in a condition for allowance.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Richard S. Elias  
Registration No. 48,806

JAO:RSE

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**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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